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29 OCT 04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

-----X
Applicant(s) : Chih-Chen CHANG :

Serial No. : 10/060,776 :

Filed : February 1, 2002 :

For : CHRISTMAS TREE STRUCTURE
DECORATING LAMP :

Art Unit : 2875 :

Examiner : Sharon E. PAYNE :
-----X

ATTENTION: MAIL STOP - PETITIONS - NO FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313 - 1450

REQUEST TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT - NO FEE

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests that a holding of abandonment of the above referenced

Patent Application be withdrawn and that the Application be returned to active status.

MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: ATTENTION: MAIL STOP - PETITIONS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313 - 1450 on the date indicated below:

Charles E. Baxley
Attorney's Name

Charles E. Baxley
Signature

October 29, 2004
Date

In reviewing records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office dated October 29, 2004, it has come to Applicant's Attorney's attention that the above referenced Patent Application was held to be abandoned for alleged failure to respond to an open Office Action dated January 31, 2003. A copy of a relevant the record of USPTO is enclosed herewith for your ready reference indicating the Application became abandoned on August 7, 2003 and that a Notice of Abandonment was mailed from USPTO on August 8, 2003. No Notice of Abandonment was received by this law office.

Applicant hereby requests that the abandonment be withdrawn because Applicant indeed had timely filed the required Amendment responsive to the Office Action on July 29, 2003 and simultaneously filed a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an additional three (3) months to and including said July 31, 2003. The requisite fee for a Small Entity in the amount of Four Hundred Sixty Five Dollars (\$465.00) was also paid along with the Petition. For this reason the holding of Abandonment was improper and must be vacated, the Application should be returned to active status and a Patent Certificate should issue hereon.

The Amendment, Petition and check had been forwarded to the Patent and Trademark Office via first class mail and a Certificate of Mailing was executed. An acknowledgment postcard date stamped from PTO on July 31, 2003 also shows the date of mailing as July 29, 2003. The Amendment should be entered into the prosecution file for review by the Examiner and the Petition for Extension of Time should be accepted.

Enclosed herewith is a true copy of a date stamped receipted postcard from USPTO. Also enclosed herewith is a copy of the Amendment responsive to the Office Action dated January 31, 2003 as well as a copy of the Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and a copy of this firm's cancelled check in the amount of Four Hundred Sixty Five Dollars (\$465.00).

By way of summary, for the foregoing reasons Applicant contends that the abandonment clearly, as a matter of law, must be withdrawn and the Application must be returned to active status. The Amendment must be entered into the prosecution file for review by the Examiner and the Petition for Extension of Time must be accepted especially in view of the uncontroverted fact that the check forwarded to PTO was cashed by USPTO on July 31, 2003.

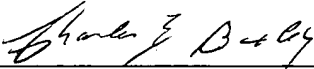
If any fees are required in connection with this request, the Commissioner is authorized to debit Deposit Account 02-1435.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Courtesy, cooperation and skill of Examiner Sharon E. PAYNE in rectifying PTO's

mistake will be appreciated.

Respectfully,

BY: 

CHARLES E. BAXLEY
Attorney of Record
USPTO Reg. 20,149
90 John Street - Third Floor
New York, New York 10038
Telephone (212) 791-7200
Facsimile (212) 791-7276
E-Mail ceb@hartbaxley.com

CEB:lcr/13867 B

Enclosures: Copy of USPTO records showing abandonment;
Copy of a date stamped receipted acknowledgment postcard from USPTO;
Copy of the Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time
Under 37 CFR 1.136(a); and
Copy of cancelled Check Number 16539 in the amount of \$465.00.



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10/060,776 Christmas tree structure of decorating lamp

Application Data	Transaction History	Published Documents	Publication Dates
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Date	Contents Description
08-08-2003	Mail Abandonment for Failure to Respond to Office Action
08-07-2003	Abandonment for Failure to Respond to Office Action
01-31-2003	Mail Non-Final Rejection
01-27-2003	Non-Final Rejection
07-24-2002	Case Docketed to Examiner in GAU
06-20-2002	Transfer Inquiry to GAU
03-14-2002	Case Docketed to Examiner in GAU
03-05-2002	Application Dispatched from OIPE
02-28-2002	Application Is Now Complete
02-14-2002	IFW Scan & PACR Auto Security Review
02-01-2002	Initial Exam Team nn

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10/060,776 Christmas tree structure of decorating lamp

Application Data	Transaction History	Published Documents	Publication Dates
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Application Number:	10/060,776	Customer Number:	-
Filing or 371 (c) Date:	02-01-2002	Status:	Abandoned -- Failure to Respond to Office Action
Application Type:	Utility	Status Date:	08-07-2003
Examiner Name:	PAYNE, SHARON E	Location:	TC-2800 SPRE, JEF-08D55 - 571-21606
Group Art Unit:	2875	Location Date:	05-01-2004
Confirmation Number:	8215	Earliest Publication No:	US 2003-0147236 A1
Attorney Docket Number:	MR2381-85	Earliest Publication Date:	08-07-2003
Class / Subclass:	362/123	Patent Number:	-
First Named Inventor:	Chih-Chen Chang , Hsinchu City, (TW)	Issue Date of Patent:	-
Title of Invention:	Christmas tree structure of decorating lamp		

The Patent Electronic Business Center is available to assist with PAIR questions at (866) 217-9197 (toll free) or EBC@uspto.gov

The Official stamp of the United States Patent and Trademark Office hereby acknowledges receipt of the following:

1. AMENDMENT RESPONSIVE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 31, 2003, SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION IN CLEAN FORM WITHOUT MARKINGS and MARKED-UP COPY OF THE SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION SHOWING THE MATTER BEING DELETED FROM THE SPECIFICATION OF RECORD w/CERTIFICATE OF MAILING;
2. FIVE (5) PAGES OF CORRECTED DRAWINGS (FIGURES 1,2,3,4 and 5);
3. SUBSTITUTE POWER OF ATTORNEY;
4. PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a);
5. Check in the amount of \$465.00;
6. Transmittal Sheet (In duplicate); and
7. Acknowledgment postcard.

Date Mailed: July 29, 2003
CEB:lcr/13867 B

Applicant : Chih-Chen CHANG
Serial No.: 10/060,776
Filed : February 1, 2002
Art Unit : 2875
For : CHRISTMAS TREE STRUCTURE
OF DECORATING LAMPS
Examiner : Sharon E. PAYNE



HART, BAXLEY, DANIELS & HOLTON
90 John Street - Suite 309
New York, N.Y. 10038

CHARLES E. BAXLEY PC

90 JOHN ST. SUITE 309
NEW YORK, NY 10038-3709

16539

PAY TO THE ORDER OF 550089271 102 4066 21 080403
Commissioner of Patent and Trademark Office

DATE July 29, 2003

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NEW YORK, NY 10271

FOR #13867 B (Shinhwa International)

Charles E. Baxley

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Applicant : Chih-Chen CHANG
Serial No. : 10/060,776
Filed : February 1, 2002
Art Unit : 2875
For : CHRISTMAS TREE STRUCTURE DECORATING LAMP
Examiner : Sharon E. PAYNE

Transmitted herewith are the following:

- X REQUEST TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT DATED AUGUST 8, 2003 w/CERTIFICATE OF MAILING;
- X Copy of USPTO records showing abandonment; copy of date stamped receipted acknowledgment postcard; copy of Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time and copy of cancelled check number 16539; and
- X ACKNOWLEDGMENT POSTCARD.

- X The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees required, or to credit any overpayment to Account No. 02-1435. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

___ A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

- X I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: ATTENTION: MAIL STOP - PETITIONS - NO FEE. Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313 - 1450 on October 29, 2004

Respectfully,

CHARLES E. BAXLEY
Attorney of Record
USPTO REG. 20, 149

Dated: October 29, 2004

CHARLES E. BAXLEY, ESQUIRE
Hart, Baxley, Daniels & Holton
90 John Street, Suite 309
New York, New York 10038
Telephone (212) 791-7200
Facsimile (212) 791-7276
E-mail ceb@hartbaxley.com

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Chih-Chen CHANG

Title: CHRISTMAS TREE STRUCTURE OF DECORATING LAMP

Application Number: 10/060,776

Filed: February 01, 2002



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REVOCATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY AND
APPOINTMENT OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

The Inventor/Patentee of the above-identified U.S. Patent, hereby revokes all Power of Attorney previously given and hereby appoints the following attorneys to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

CHARLES E. BAXLEY, ESQ., REG. # 20,149
HART, BAXLEY, DANIELS & HOLTON
90 John Street, Third Floor
New York, New York 10038
U.S.A.

Send all correspondence to:

HART, BAXLEY, DANIELS & HOLTON
90 John Street, Third Floor
New York, New York 10038
U.S.A.

And direct all telephone calls to:

TEL: (212) 791-7200
FAX: (212) 791-7276

APPOINTMENT OF DOMESTIC REPRESENTATIVE

The Law firm of HART, BAXLEY, DANIELS & HOLTON having a business address at 59 John Street, 5th Floor New York, New York 10038, is hereby designated as Assignee's/Patentee's representative upon whom notices or process in proceedings affecting the patent may be served.

Respectfully submitted,

July 20, 2003
Date

Chih-Chen Chang
Chih-Chen CHNG

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)

Docket Number (Optional)

13867 B



In re Application of Chih-Chen CHANG

Application Number 10/060,776

Filed 01 Feb 2002

For CHRISTMAS TREE STRUCTURE OF DECORATING LAMPS

Group Art Unit 2875

Examiner Sharon E. PAYNE

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This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a reply in the above identified application.

The requested extension and appropriate non-small-entity fee are as follows (check time period desired):

- ☐ One month (37 CFR 1.17(a)(1))
- ☐ Two months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(2))
- ☒ Three months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(3))
- ☐ Four months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(4))
- ☐ Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5))

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\$ _____

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\$ 930.00

\$ _____

\$ _____

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee amount shown above is reduced by one-half, and the resulting fee is: \$465.00

☒ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

☐ The Commissioner has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 02-1435

I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

I am the ☐ applicant/inventor

☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

☒ attorney or agent of record.

☐ attorney or agent under 37 CFR 1.34(a).

Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a) _____

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

July 29, 2003

Date

Charles E. Baxley

Signature

CHARLES E. BAXLEY, ESQUIRE

Typed or printed name

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☐ Total of _____ forms are submitted.



ATTORNEY DOCKET: 13867 B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

-----X
Applicant: : Chih-Chen Chang :
Invention : CHRISTMAS TREE STRUCTURE :
OF DECORATING LAMPS :
App. No. : 10/060,776 :
Filed: : February 1, 2002 :
Group Art Unit: : 2875 :
Examiner: : Sharon E. Payne :
Paper No.: : 3 :
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ATTENTION; MAIL STOP - FEE AMENDMENT - PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

In response to the Office action dated January 31, 2003, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT
TO 37 CFR § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment - Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below:

Charles E. Baxley
Attorney's Name

Charles E. Baxley
Signature

July 29, 2003

In the Drawings:

FIGURE 1 has been corrected in red to add arrow heads to the lead lines for reference numerals "3" and "32" (*both occurrences*).

FIGURE 2 has been corrected in red to eliminate the superfluous numeral "2" and the superfluous brackets enclosing reference numeral "32" and to add an arrow head to the lead line for reference numeral "32".

FIGURE 3 has been corrected in red to eliminate the superfluous numeral "2" and the superfluous brackets enclosing reference numeral "32" and to add an arrow head to the lead line for reference numeral "32".

FIGURE 4 has been corrected in red to eliminate the superfluous numeral "2" and the superfluous brackets enclosing reference numeral "32" and to add an arrow head to the lead line for reference numeral "32".

FIGURE 5 has been corrected in red to add arrow heads to the lead lines for reference numerals "3" and "32" and to add reference numeral "1" and its associated lead line.

In the Specification:

A substitute specification in clean form without markings as to amended material pursuant to *37 CFR § 1.125(c)* is submitted herewith.

A marked-up copy of the substitute specification showing the matter being added to and the matter being deleted from the specification of record pursuant to *37 CFR § 1.125(b)(2)* is submitted herewith.

In the Claims:

- 1 1. *(currently amended)* A Christmas tree structure of decorating **lamp lamps**, comprised
2 of strings of decorating lamps, branches, and **a** trunk, wherein said branches are
3 arranged and located ~~**in-lit-par-lit-structure**~~ around the trunk, and the string of
4 decorating lamps are ~~**lo-cated**~~ **located** on the ~~**braches**~~ **branches**; ~~**the feather is in**~~
5 **there: [[the]] a** cord part of said string of decorating **lamp lamps** has more than one
6 palm-shaped ~~**branches**~~ **branch**, coordinating to the branch in shape, and at **[[the]] a**
7 tip end a bulb is built on and connected in electric ~~**con-nection**~~ **connection**, and **[[the]]**
8 cords coordinating to **[[the]] a** core shaft of the branch **[[is]] are** hidden
9 ~~**synchronously**~~ **simultaneously** as binding **[[the]]** clusters of needle-shaped leaves on
10 the core shaft with a binding belt; **wherein a lamp-holder holding said bulb has a**
11 **retainer for fastening on the tip end of the cluster of the needle-shaped leaves.**
- 1 2. *(currently amended)* **[[A]] The** Christmas tree structure of decorating **lamp lamps** as
2 claimed in claim 1, wherein~~**[[,]]**~~ said string of decorating lamps has a ~~**cou-ple of plug**~~
3 and **a** socket built on ~~**the both**~~ ends **separately thereof, respectfully.**
- 1 3. *(currently amended)* **[[A]] The** Christmas tree structure of decorating **lamp lamps** as
2 claimed in claim 1, wherein~~**[[,]]**~~ said palm-shaped branches of said string of decorating
3 lamps are arranged in **a** horizontal array around the trunk, and in **a** stepped
4 construction from **[[the]] a** bottom to **[[the]] a** top circularly and upward, one terminal
5 is connected to **[[the]] a** power source.

1 4. (currently amended) **[[A]] The** Christmas tree structure of decorating **lamp lamps** as
2 claimed in claim 1, wherein~~[[,]]~~ said palm-shaped branches of said string of decorating
3 lamps are arranged in a horizontal array around the trunk, and in a stepped
4 construction from ~~[[the]]~~ a top to ~~[[the]]~~ a bottom circularly and downward, one
5 terminal is connected to ~~[[the]]~~ a power source.

1 5. (currently amended) **[[A]] The** Christmas tree structure of decorating **lamp lamps** as
2 claimed in claim 1, wherein~~[[,]]~~ said palm-shaped branches of said string of decorating
3 lamps are arranged in a vertical array along the trunk, each of them is retained on
4 ~~[[the]]~~ a different level but ~~[[the]]~~ a same orientation on the branches, one terminal
5 is connected to ~~[[the]]~~ a power source.

1 6. (currently amended) **[[A]] The** Christmas tree structure of decorating **lamp lamps** as
2 claimed in claim 3 or claim 4, wherein~~[[,]]~~ in ~~[[the]]~~ a connection of said palm-shaped
3 branches and the branch, all or part of the palm-shaped branches of said strings of
4 decorating lamps in ~~[[the]]~~ a same branch consist of a local connection unit.

1 7. (currently amended) **[[A]] The** Christmas tree structure of decorating **lamp lamps** as
2 claimed in claim 5, wherein~~[[,]]~~ in ~~[[the]]~~ a connection of said palm-shaped branches
3 and the branch, all or part in ~~[[the]]~~ a same orientation consist of a local connection
4 unit in the branch.

1 8. (cancelled)

REMARKS

FIGURES 1-5 have been corrected to house clean, a substitute specification in clean form without markings as to amended material pursuant to *37 CFR § 1.125(c)* is submitted herewith, a marked-up copy of the substitute specification showing the matter being added to and the matter being deleted from the specification of record pursuant to *37 CFR § 1.125(b)(2)* is submitted herewith, claim 8 has been cancelled, and claims 1-7 have been amended.

Applicant requests further examination and reconsideration of claims 1-7 now pending in the application.

If the specification and/or claims should require any further amendment, the kind assistance of the Examiner in entering an Examiner's Amendment would be gratefully appreciated.

The last Office Action dated January 31, 2003 has been carefully considered and indicates that:

- a) The drawings are objected to under *37 CFR § 1.83(a)*;
- b) The specification is rejected under *35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph*;
- c) Claims 1-8 are objected to;
- d) Claims 1-8 are rejected under *35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph*;
- e) Claims 1-7 are rejected under *35 U.S.C. § 103(a)* as being unpatentable over Hellrich; and

- f) Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, *first paragraph*.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the drawings under 37 CFR § 1.83(a), applicant respectfully submits that both **FIGURES 3 and 4** of the drawings show every feature of the invention specified in both claims 3 and 4 and that **FIGURE 5** of the drawings show every feature of the invention specified in claim 5.

In view of both **FIGURES 3 and 4** of the drawing showing every feature of the invention specified in both claims 3 and 4 and **FIGURE 5** of the drawing showing every feature of the invention specified in claim 5, applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's grounds for the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR § 1.83(a) are no longer tenable and that applicant therefore respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

In response to the Examiner's rejection of the specification under 35 U.S.C. § 112, *first paragraph*, applicant:

1. Submits herewith a substitute specification in clean form without markings as to amended material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.125(c).
2. Submits herewith a marked-up copy of the substitute specification showing the matter being added to and the matter being deleted from the specification of record pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.125(b)(2),

3. Respectfully submits that the substitute specification pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.125(c) includes no new matter pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.125(b)(1).

In view of the submission herewith of a substitute specification in clean form without markings as to amended material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.125(c), the submission herewith of a marked-up copy of the substitute specification showing the matter being added to and the matter being deleted from the specification of record pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.125(b)(2), and the respectful submission that the substitute specification pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.125(c) includes no new matter pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.125(b)(1), applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's grounds for the rejection of the specification under 35 U.S.C. § 112, *first paragraph*, are no longer tenable and that applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

In response to the Examiner's objection to claims 1-8, applicant:

1. Has cancelled claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer.
2. Has amended line 1 of claims 1-7 to change "**lamp**" to **--lamps--**, as required by the Examiner.
3. Has amended line 5 of claim 1 to change "**braches**" to **--branches--**, as required by the Examiner.
4. Has amended line 6 of claim 1 to change "**lamp**" to **--lamps--**, as required by the Examiner.

5. Has amended lines 6-7 of claim 1 to change **“more than one palm-shaped branches”** to **--more than one palm-shaped branch--**, as required by the Examiner.
6. Has amended line 10 of claim 1 to change **“is”** to **--are--**, as required by the Examiner.
7. Has amended line 5 of claim 1 to change **“the cord part”** to **--a cord part--** to eliminate a need for antecedent basis for the limitation.
8. Has amended line 8 of claim 1 to change **“the tip end”** to **--a tip end--** to eliminate a need for antecedent basis for the limitation.
9. Has amended line 9 of claim 1 to change **“the cords”** to **--a cord--** to eliminate a need for antecedent basis for the limitation.
10. Has amended line 9 of claim 1 to change **“the core shaft”** to **--a core shaft--** to eliminate a need for antecedent basis for the limitation.
11. Has amended line 10 of claim 1 to change **“the clusters”** to **--clusters--** to eliminate a need for antecedent basis for the limitation.
12. Respectfully submits that there is only one type of branch and that they are arranged and located around the trunk. The cords of the strings of decorating lamps are formed into palm-shapes which define the shape of the branch *ergo* palm-shaped branch. The clusters of needle-shaped leaves follow the shape of the cords of the strings of decorating lamps and emanate out from the core shaft and have their proximal ends

along with the cords of the strings of decorating lamps affixed to the core shaft by the belt and have their proximal ends affixed to the lamp-holders by the retainers.

13. Has amended line 10 of claim 1 to change **“synchronously”** to **--simultaneously--** to indicate that the core shaft and the cords are hidden simultaneously as the clusters of needle-shaped leaves are bound to the core shaft by the belt.
14. Has amended line 2 and 3 of claim 2 to change **“cou-ple of plug and socket built on the both ends separately”** to **--plug and a socket built on ends thereof, respectfully--** so as to make clear that one end has a plug thereon and the other end has a socket thereon.
15. Respectfully submits that all or part of the strings of decorating lamps in the same branch or all or part of the strings of decorating lamps in the same orientation are disconnectable from each other by virtue of the “local” connection units, *i.e.*, “local” means at a point of connection.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner’s grounds for the objection to claims 1-8 are no longer tenable and applicant therefore respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

In response to the Examiner’s rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, *first paragraph*, applicant has:

1. Amended line 5 of claim 1 to delete **“the feather is in there”**.

2. Amended line 3 of claim 1 to delete “lit-par-lit”.

In view of the amendment made *supra* to line 5 of claim 1 to delete “the feather is in there” and the amendment made *supra* to line 3 of claim 1 to delete “lit-par-lit”, applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner’s grounds for the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, are no longer tenable and that applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

In response to the Examiner’s rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hellrich and the Examiner’s objection to claim 8, applicant has:

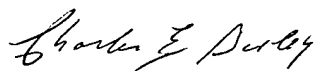
1. Cancelled allowable claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer.
2. Amended base claim 1 to include the limitations of cancelled allowable claim 8.

In view of the cancellation of allowable claim 8 and the amendment made *supra* to base claim 1 to include the limitations of cancelled allowable claim 8, applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner’s grounds for the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hellrich and the Examiner’s grounds for the objection to claim 8 are no longer tenable and that applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection and the objection be withdrawn.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon has been carefully considered and duly noted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance.
Allowance of claims 1-7 at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully,

By: 
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Attorney of Record
USPTO Reg. 20,149

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New York, New York 10038
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Fax: (212) 791-7276

Dated: New York, NY

**SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION IN
CLEAN FORM WITHOUT MARKINGS
AS TO AMENDED MATERIAL
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.125(c)**

ATTORNEY DOCKET: 13867 B

CHRISTMAS TREE STRUCTURE OF DECORATING LAMPS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention:

The present invention relates to a Christmas tree structure of decorating lamps, and more particularly, to Christmas tree-shaped decorating lamps without an exposed cord.

Description of the Prior Art:

A conventional Christmas tree comprised of several branches and a main trunk has attached thereto a string of decorating lamps. The branches branch out from the main trunk in a radial fashion and the string of decorating lamps are put over the branches by the user requiring much time and labor, with larger Christmas trees being more difficult. The string of decorating lamps that are hung over the tree are exposed and make the Christmas tree a fearful mess especially in daytime, which not only affects its appearance, but also its value.

A string of decorating lamps whose cords are hidden in the tree's branches and trunk is referred to in USA Patent No.: 6,030,670 and Chinese Patent No.: CN97224263.5 and CN97884560.X, in which the shortcomings such as messy appearance caused by the exposed

1 cords and the much time and labor required to put the cords over have been overcome. Such,
2 however, is not suited for locating a string of decorating lamps over an artificial Christmas
3 tree, it does not have a hollow inside for hiding the cords of the string of decorating lamps in.

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore a main object of the present invention to provide a Christmas tree structure of decorating lamps which can hide most of its cords so as to improve its appearance and valuation.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a Christmas tree structure of decorating lamps in which the string of decorating lamps can be pre-located on the branches for avoiding the trouble of wiring the cords by the user.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a Christmas tree structure of decorating lamps in which a local connection unit is built coordinating to the number and position of the branch pre-attached with decorating lamps for plugging in or out so as to make storing and transporting more convenient.

The present invention is comprised of a proper number of segments, wherein each segment includes more than one palm-shaped branch in which the cords are located and hidden on a core shaft by wrapping a belt to fasten a cluster of the needle-shaped leaves simultaneously or by binding a cluster of the needle-shaped leaves with the cords molded directly thereinto simultaneously to construct a basic unit of the Christmas tree-shaped decorating lamps to meet the functions of improving valuation and facility of transportation.

1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

2 Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic view showing palm-shaped branches of the present invention;

3 Fig. 2 is an exploded diagrammatic view showing binding cords and a cluster of needle-
4 shaped leaves on a core shaft of a palm-shaped branch of the present invention;

5 Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic view showing the palm-shaped branches of a segment attached to
6 a main trunk in a first embodiment of the present invention;

7 Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic view showing a combined state of the first embodiment of the
8 present invention; and

9 Fig. 5 is a diagrammatic view showing a second embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2, several palm-shaped branches 32 are built on a cord 31 of a string of decorating lamps 3 provided by the present invention. In a tip end of a branch 32, a bulb 33 is connected in electric connection. A lamp-holder of the bulb 33 has a retainer 331 for fastening on a cluster of needle-shaped leaves 22. The cords 31 coordinating to a core shaft 21 of a branch are hidden by binding a belt 4 to fasten the cluster of needle-shaped leaves 22 on the core shaft 21 of a branch 32 simultaneously. The cord 31 of the decorating lamps 3 has a plug 34 and a socket 35 connected on ends thereof, respectively, for series connection, thereby extending the Christmas tree by adding more than one unit of the branches 32 in series connection to meet the necessary length of the branches 32 in each segment.

Referring to Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, a first embodiment of the present invention is shown. The palm-shaped branches 32 of the string of decorating lamps 3 are arranged in a horizontal array around a trunk 1, in a stepped construction from a bottom to a top circularly and upwardly or from the top to the bottom. In each level, the branches 32 are retained on the trunk 1. The string of decorating lamps 3 of each level, via the plug 34 connecting with the cords 31, connect to a power source on the trunk 1 or the socket 35 located on a last level.

In a second embodiment shown in Fig. 5, the palm-shaped branches 32 of the string of decorating lamps 3 are arranged in a vertical array along the trunk 1. Each of them is retained at a different level, but in a same orientation around the trunk 1, and by the plugs 34 and the sockets 35 they are connected in a series connection.

1 For convenience of knocked-down shipping and reinstalling of the branches 32 with
2 the trunk 1, all or part of the palm-shaped branches 32 of the string of decorating lamps 3 in
3 a same branch 32 consist of a local connection unit, or all or part in the same orientation
4 consist of a local connection unit in the branch 32. Due to the local connection units, the
5 whole tree can be taken apart for shipping so that production cost is reduced, and the user just
6 needs to reinstall every local connection unit following a diagram, then cut in the power source
7 at the desired site.

8 Referring to Fig. 1 to Fig. 5, the lamp-holder holding the bulb 33 has the retainer 331
9 for fastening on the tip end of the cluster of needle-shaped leaves 22, and the cords 31
10 coordinating to the needle-shaped leaves 22 of the palm-shaped branch 32 can be hidden or
11 hung over the bottom side of the cluster of needle-shaped leaves 22.

ABSTRACT

1 A Christmas tree structure of decorating lamps includes a proper number of segments,
2 wherein each segment includes more than one palm-shaped branch in which cords are located
3 and hidden on a core shaft by wrapping a belt to fasten a cluster of needle-shaped leaves
4 simultaneously or by binding a cluster of needle-shaped leaves with the cords molded directly
5 thereinto simultaneously to construct a basic unit of the Christmas tree-shaped decorating
6 lamps to meet the functions of improving valuation and facility of transportation.

MARKED-UP COPY OF THE
SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION
SHOWING THE MATTER BEING ADDED
TO AND THE MATTER BEING
DELETED FROM THE SPECIFICATION
OF RECORD PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §
1.125(b)(2)

ATTORNEY DOCKET: 13867 B

[[A]] CHRISTMAS TREE STRUCTURE OF DECORATING [[LAMP]] LAMPS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[1.] Field of the Invention:

The present invention relates to a Christmas tree structure of ~~deco-rating~~ decorating [[lamp]] lamps, and more particularly, to [[a]] Christmas tree-shaped decorating [[lamp]] lamps without an exposed cord.

[2.] Description of the Prior Art:

~~In accordance with the~~ A conventional Christmas tree comprised of several branches and a main trunk has attached [[with]] thereto ~~decorating lamp~~[[,]] ~~it is comprised of~~ a string of decorating lamps[[,]] ~~several branches and a main trunk~~[[,]] ~~wherein said . The~~ branches branch out from the main trunk in a radial ~~around~~ fashion and ~~said the~~ string of decorating lamps [[is]] are put over the branches ~~of a traditional Christmas tree around~~ by the user ~~self so that it demands~~ requiring much time and labor, ~~especially with~~ [[the]] larger Christmas trees ~~to be deco-rated being~~[[, the]] more difficult ~~to be is~~

1 encountered[[,]] ~~and the bared cords of said~~ . The string of ~~[[the]]~~ decorating lamps that
2 are hung over the tree are exposed ~~into the air so as to~~ and make the Christmas tree appear
3 into a fearful mess especially in daytime, ~~[[it]]~~ which not only affects ~~the whole outward~~ its
4 appearance, but also ~~[[the]]~~ its value.

5 ~~For overcoming this shortcoming, the inventor had invented a~~ A string of
6 decorating lamps ~~hiding whose~~ cords ~~[[into]]~~ are hidden in the tree's branches and trunk[[,]]
7 ~~which had been~~ is referred to in ~~application and obtained the permission of~~ USA Patent
8 No.: 6,030,670 and Chinese Patent No.: CN97224263.5 and CN97884560.X, in which the
9 shortcomings such ~~[[like mess]]~~ as messy appearance caused by the exposed ~~[[bared]]~~ cords
10 and ~~taking too~~ the much time and labor ~~by putting over~~ required to put the cords over
11 ~~[[had]]~~ have been overcome ~~at all[[,]]~~ ~~but that invention can~~ . Such, however, is not
12 ~~[[suit]]~~ suited for locating a string of decorating lamps over an artificial Christmas tree,
13 ~~whether the conventional branches of the Christmas tree wrapped up by a needle-shaped~~
14 ~~leaves belt molded the twisted cords into[[,]]~~ ~~or by needle-shaped leaves molded the~~
15 ~~twisted cords~~ ~~[[into]]~~ directly[[,]] ~~they do~~ it does not have a hollow inside for hiding the
16 cords of ~~said~~ the string of ~~deco-rating~~ decorating lamps in.

1 OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

2 It is therefore a main object of the present invention to provide a Christmas tree
3 structure of decorating ~~[[lamp,]]~~ lamps which can hide most of its cords so as to improve ~~the~~
4 ~~goods~~ its outward appearance and valuation.

5 It is ~~a next~~ another object of the present invention to provide a Christmas tree
6 structure of decorating ~~[[lamp,]]~~ lamps in which the string of decorating lamps can be pre-
7 located on the branches for avoiding the trouble of ~~putting over and~~ wiring the cords by the
8 user ~~[[self]]~~.

9 It is ~~[[a]]~~ another object of the present invention to provide a ~~Christ-mas~~ Christmas
10 tree structure of decorating ~~[[lamp,]]~~ lamps in which a local connection unit is built
11 coordinating to the number and position of ~~said the~~ branch pre-attached with decorating lamps
12 for plugging in or out so as to make ~~[[store]]~~ storing and ~~transport~~ transporting more
13 convenient.

14 The present invention is comprised of a proper number of ~~seg-ments~~ segments,
15 wherein each segment includes more than one palm-shaped ~~branches,~~ branch in which the
16 cords ~~[[is]]~~ are located and hidden on a core shaft by wrapping a belt to fasten a cluster of the
17 needle-shaped leaves ~~synchro-nously~~ simultaneously~~[[,]]~~ or by binding a cluster of the
18 needle-shaped leaves ~~molded~~ with the cords ~~molded~~ [[into]] directly thereinto
19 synchronously simultaneously to construct a basic unit of the ~~Christ-mas~~ Christmas tree-
20 shaped decorating ~~[[lamp]]~~ lamps to meet the functions of improving ~~[[whole]]~~ valuation and
21 facility of transportation.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a **scheme diagrammatic view** showing **[[a]] palm-shaped [[branch]] branches** of the present invention~~[[.]]~~;

Fig. 2 is ~~a solid~~ **an** exploded **diagrammatic** view showing binding **[[the]] cords** and **a** cluster of needle-shaped leaves on **[[the]] a** core shaft of **[[the]] a** palm-shaped branch of the present invention~~[[.]]~~;

Fig. 3 is a **[[solid]] diagrammatic** view showing the palm-shaped branches **[[in on]] of** a segment **attaching attached on the to a** main trunk in **[[the]] a** first embodiment of the ~~pres-ent~~ **present** invention~~[[.]]~~;

Fig. 4 is a **[[solid]] diagrammatic** view showing a combined state **[[in]] of** the first ~~embodiment~~ **embodiment** of the ~~pres-ent~~ **present** invention~~[[.]]~~; **and**

Fig. 5 is a **scheme diagrammatic view** showing **[[the]] a** second embodiment of the present invention.

1 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

2 Referring to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2, several palm-shaped branches 32 are built on [[the]] a
3 cord 31 of a string of decorating lamps 3 provided by the ~~pre-sent~~ present invention~~[[,]]~~
4 ~~wherein the shape of said palm-shaped branch 32 coordinates to the branch 2's~~
5 ~~about[[,]] and in its . In a tip end of a branch 32,~~ a bulb 33 is connected in electric
6 connection~~[[,]] and the . A lamp-holder of said the~~ bulb 33 has a retainer 331 for fastening
7 on a cluster of [[the]] needle-shaped leaves 22~~[[,]] and the . The cords 31~~ coordinating to
8 [[the]] a core shaft 21 of [[the]] a branch 32 ~~is located and hid-den~~ are hidden by binding
9 a belt 4 to ~~fastening~~ fasten [[a]] the cluster of [[the]] needle-shaped leaves 22 on ~~said the~~
10 core shaft 21 of ~~said a~~ branch 32 synchronously simultaneously. ~~Said The~~ [[cords]] cord
11 31 of the decorating lamps 3 has a ~~couple of~~ plug 34 and a socket 35 connected on [[the both
12 end separately]] ends thereof, respectively, for series connection, thereby extending ~~said the~~
13 Christmas tree by adding more than one unit of ~~said branch 2~~ the branches 32 in series
14 connection to meet the necessary [[of]] length of ~~said branch 2~~ the branches 32 in each ~~seg-~~
15 ment segment.

16 Referring to Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, [[the]] a first embodiment of the present invention is
17 shown~~[[,]] therein said . The~~ palm-shaped branches 32 of ~~said the~~ string of decorating lamps
18 3 are arranged in a horizontal array around [[the]] a trunk 1, [[and]] in a stepped construction
19 from [[the]] a bottom to [[the]] a top circularly and ~~up-ward~~ upwardly~~[[,]]~~ or from the top
20 to the bottom ~~downward~~ downwardly~~[[,]] but in . In~~ each level, ~~said branch 2 is the~~
21 branches 32 are retained on ~~said the~~ trunk 1 ~~and the . The~~ string of decorating lamps 3 of
22 each level, via the plug 34 connecting with ~~said the~~ cords 31, connect to [[the]] a power
23 source on ~~said the~~ trunk 1~~[[,]]~~ or the socket 35 located on [[the]] a last level.

1 In ~~[[the]]~~ a second embodiment shown in Fig. 5, ~~said the~~ palm-shaped branches 32
2 of ~~said the~~ string of decorating lamps 3 are arranged in a vertical array along the trunk 1~~[[,~~
3 ~~each]]~~ . Each of them is retained ~~on the~~ at a different level, but ~~[[the]]~~ in a same orientation
4 ~~on the branches 2[[,]]~~ around the trunk 1 ~~different orientation's strings take the same way~~
5 ~~of location~~, and ~~between them~~ by the plugs 34 and the sockets 35 they are connected in a
6 series connection.

7 For ~~concerning the~~ convenience of knocked-down shipping and reinstalling of ~~said~~
8 ~~the~~ branches ~~[[2]] 32~~ with ~~said the~~ trunk 1, all or part of the palm-shaped branches 32 of ~~said~~
9 ~~the~~ string of decorating lamps 3 in ~~[[the]]~~ a same branch ~~[[2]] 32~~ consist of a local connection
10 unit, or all or part in the same ~~ori-entation~~ orientation consist of a local connection unit in
11 the branch ~~[[2]] 32~~. Due to the ~~lo-cal~~ local connection units, the whole tree can be taken apart
12 ~~as in for~~ shipping so that ~~[[the]]~~ production cost is reduced, and the user just ~~[[need]]~~ needs
13 to reinstall every local connection unit following ~~[[the]]~~ a diagram, then cut in the power
14 source at ~~all in~~ the desired site.

15 Referring to Fig. 1 to Fig. 5, ~~said the~~ lamp-holder holding ~~said the~~ bulb 33 has ~~[[a]]~~
16 ~~the~~ retainer 331 for fastening on the tip end of the cluster of ~~[[the]]~~ needle-shaped leaves 22,
17 and the cords 31 coordinating to the needle-shaped leaves 22 of ~~said the~~ palm-shaped branch
18 32 can be hidden or hung over the bottom side ~~said of the~~ cluster of needle-shaped leaves 22.

ABSTRACT

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The present invention is comprised of a A Christmas tree structure of decorating
lamps include a proper number of **seg-ments segments**, wherein each segment includes more
than one palm-shaped **branches branch**[[,]] in which **[[the]]** cords **[[is]] are** located and
hidden on a core shaft by wrapping a belt to fasten a cluster of **[[the]]** needle-shaped leaves
synchro-nously simultaneously[[,]] or by binding a cluster of **[[the]]** needle-shaped leaves
molded with the cords **molded** **[[into]]** directly **thereinto synchronously simultaneously** to
construct a basic unit of the **Christ-mas Christmas** tree-shaped decorating **[[lamp]] lamps**
to meet the functions of improving **[[whole]]** valuation and facility of transportation.

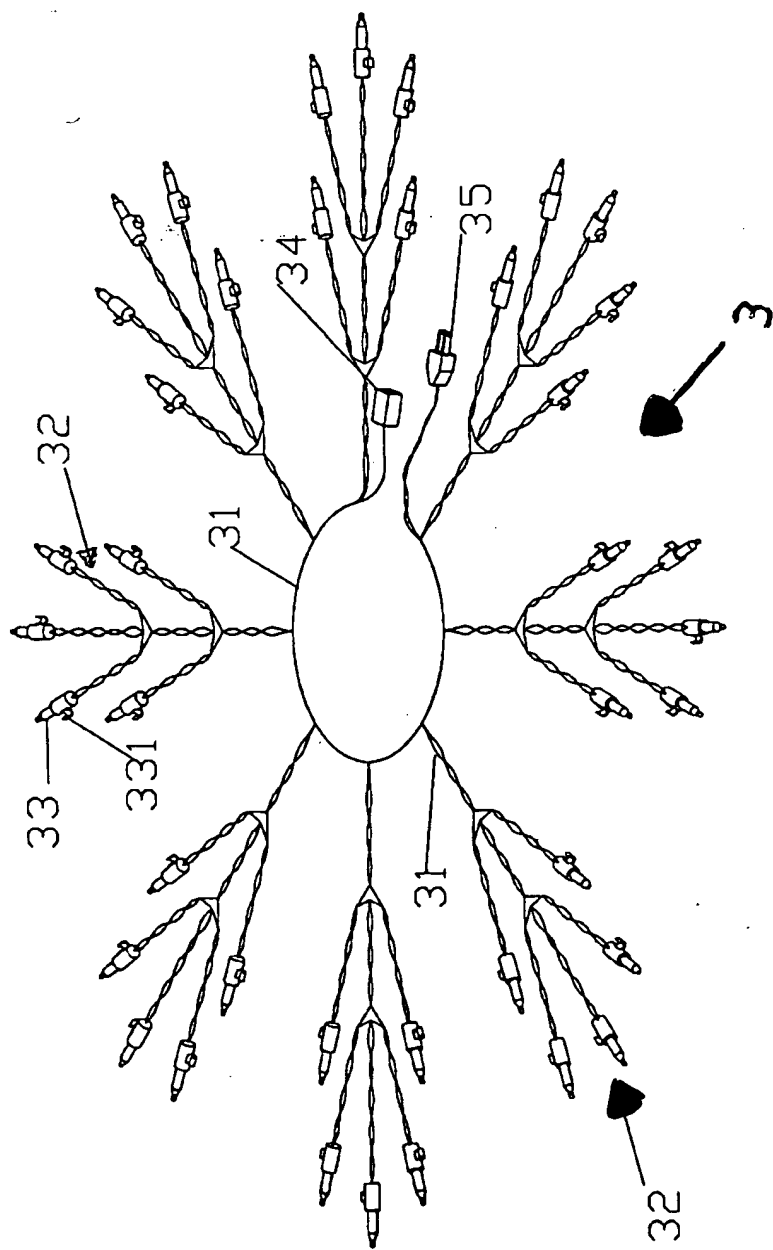


Fig. 1

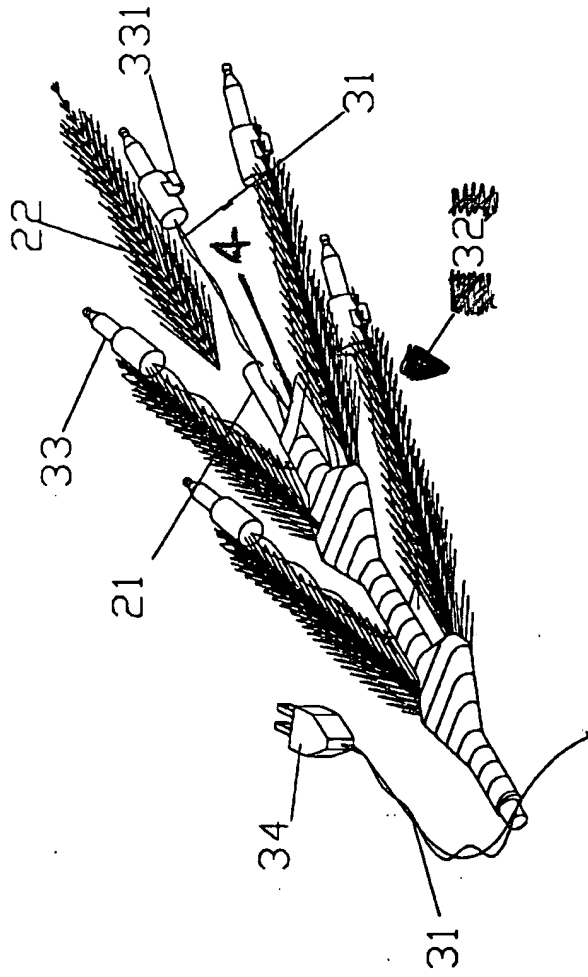


Fig. 2

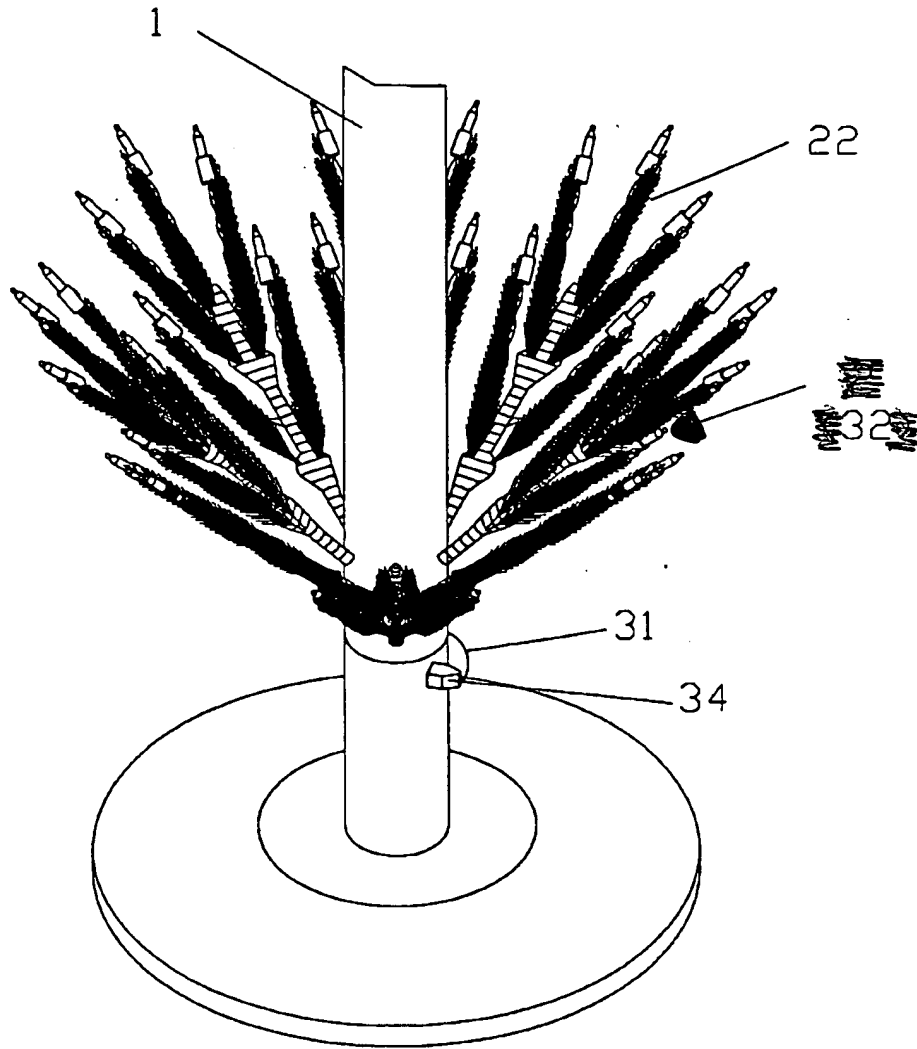


Fig. 3

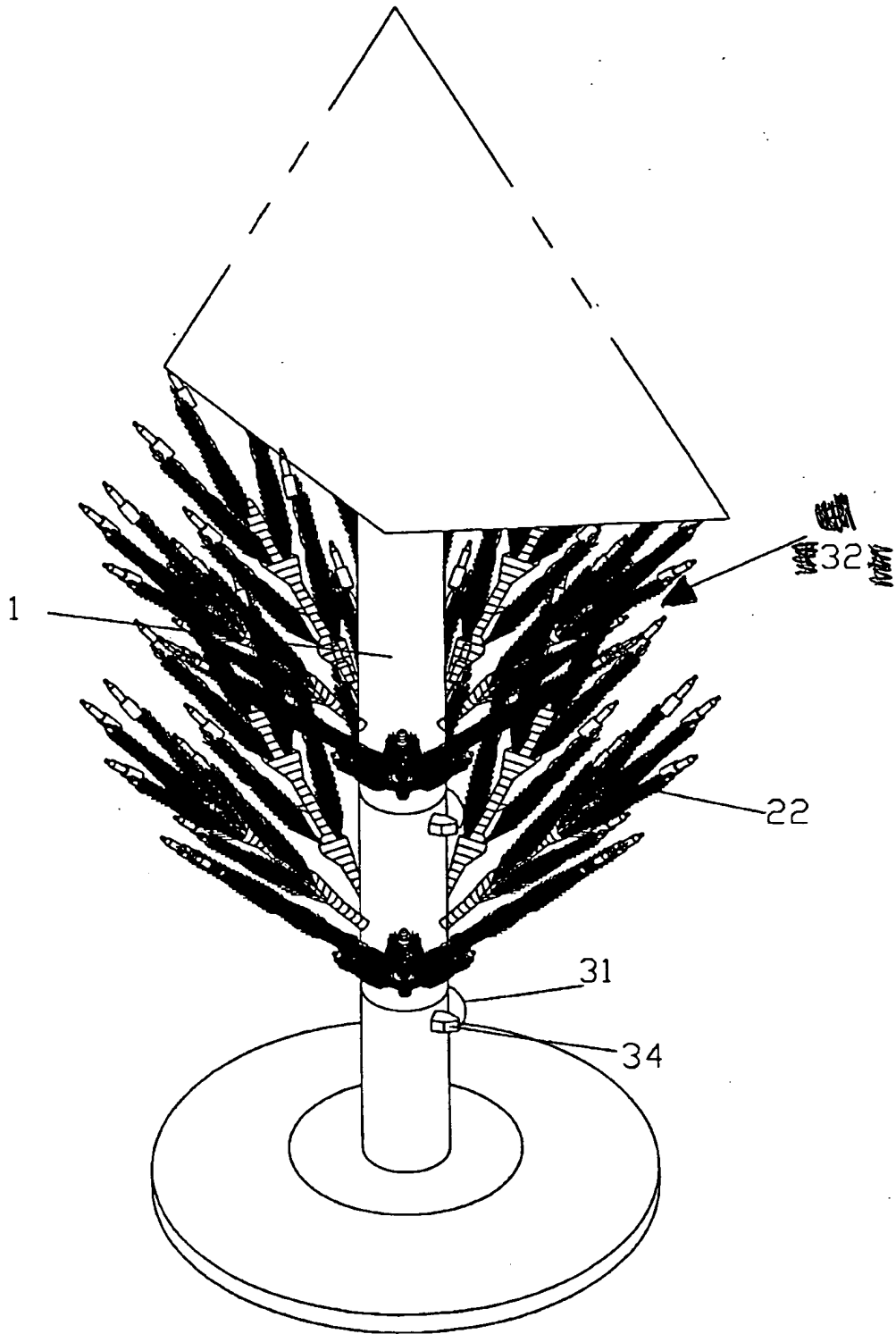


Fig. 4

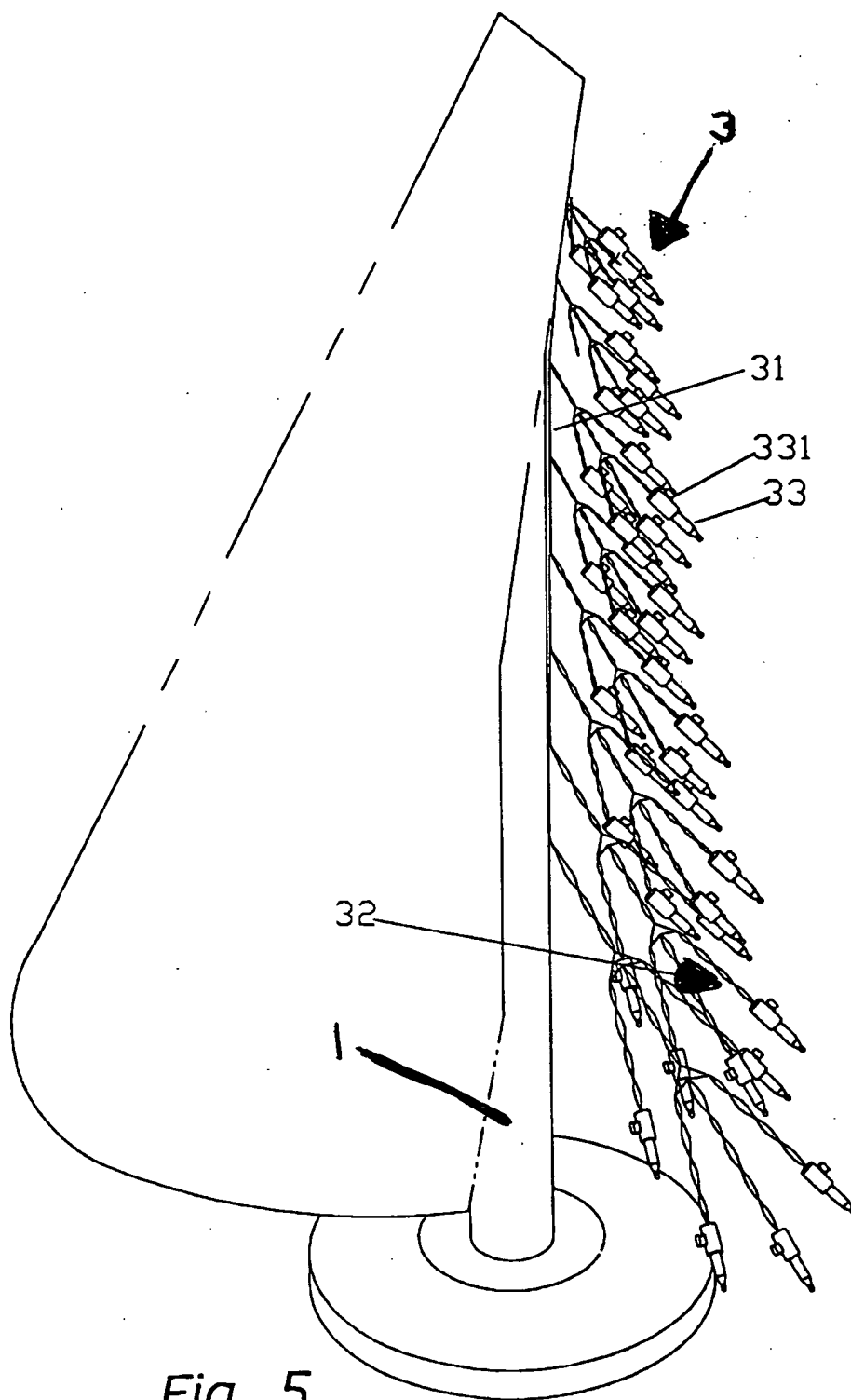


Fig. 5